

**MINUTES  
LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD  
MEETING**

**August 2, 2011**

**Boardroom 106**

**Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection  
2811 Agriculture Drive, Madison, Wisconsin**

**Item #1      Call to Order--open meeting notice, approval of agenda, and approval of  
June 7, 2011, LWCB meeting minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Cupp at 9:30 a.m. with the pledge of allegiance. Other LWCB members present were: Tom Rudolph, Denny Caneff, Sandi Cihlar, Chuck Wagner, Robin Leary, Patrick Laughrin, Ryan Schroeder, John Petty for the DATCP Secretary, and Cory Steinbrink for the DOA Secretary. A quorum was present. Advisors present were Kurt Calkins for WALCE, Julian Zelazny for WLWCA, and Ken Genskow, UW Extension.

Cupp confirmed with Lori Price that the meeting had been publicly noticed, as required. Cupp presented the agenda for approval. Leary made a motion to approve the agenda, and Wagner seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Steinbrink introduced himself as a temporary DOA representative to the LWCB until the DOA Secretary appoints a permanent one. The LWCB members and advisors introduced themselves.

Cupp presented the June 7, 2011, LWCB meeting minutes for approval. Rudolph requested two changes: page 1, 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph, 5<sup>th</sup> sentence—change “scheduled” to “schedule”; and page 2, 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph, last sentence, change “in” to “is.” Rudolph made a motion to approve the meeting minutes with the changes, and Laughrin seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Item #2      Public appearances**

No public appearances took place at this meeting.

**Item #3      Report of the LWCB Officers Committee including approval of the meeting  
minutes—Mark Cupp, LWCB**

Cupp presented the July 22, 2011, LWCB Officers Committee meeting minutes for approval. Rudolph had a change to Item #3, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence—change “advisor” to “member” in both places. Caneff made a motion to approve the amended minutes, and Rudolph seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Cupp reported that the LWCB Officers met on July 22<sup>nd</sup> to finalize the August 2<sup>nd</sup> forum plans and review the draft agenda for the August 2<sup>nd</sup> business meeting. He also reported that Fred Madison, UW CALS Advisor to the LWCB, has retired. Cupp will be speaking with Madison at a later date to find out if UW CALS has found a replacement for this advisor position. Cupp reported he will be meeting with Senator Schultz's office to move forward with the legislation to update the LWCB responsibilities and duties.

**Item #4      Recommendation for approval of the Green County Land and Water Resource Management Plan—Todd Jensen, Green County DLWC; and Dennis Presser, DATCP**

Jensen presented the LWRM plan to the LWCB for an approval recommendation. His presentation covered the follow areas: agricultural industry in the county, the DLWC staff and their work with other governmental units, and plan priorities.

After the presentation, the LWCB and Jensen discussed the purpose of holding classes on advanced nutrient management planning; the origin of the industrial waste in the county and whether winter spreading of the waste was allowed; regulation of building new homes in the countryside; permitting new wells; school education activities; forest management planning in the county; wildlife damage abatement activities in the plan; how the allocation reduction will affect the DLWC and the importance of the staff funding from DATCP; why the numbers of cows in the county remains consistent; whether education activities would increase with an additional staff person; other means to deliver conservation education to schools; an explanation of vertical tillage; and whether the county conservation department has merged with other departments.

Rudolph made a motion for the LWCB to recommend approval of the Green County Land and Water Resource Management Plan. Wagner seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Item #5      Recommendation for approval of the Milwaukee County Land and Water Resource Management Plan—Steve Keith, Milwaukee County ES; and Dennis Presser**

Keith presented the plan to the LWCB for an approval recommendation. His presentation covered the following areas: county geographical information; major resource concerns; goals and major accomplishments in the prior plan; and goals and objectives in the new plan.

After the presentation, the LWCB and Keith discussed mitigation of contaminated sediments in streams, rivers, and ponds in the county; use of native plants in projects; invasive species for sale in nurseries; invasive species found in the county and coordination of natural areas regarding invasive species; the evolving constituency that Environmental Services (ES) deals with; mitigation of damage and pollution from water fowl; conservation educational activities; whether flooding is still an ongoing issue in the county, and Metropolitan Milwaukee Sewerage District (MMSD) role in managing sewer overflows; concerns over chloride levels in water supply; whether there were active wells in the City of Milwaukee; and partnering with other groups on projects.

Wager made a motion for the LWCB to recommend approval of the Milwaukee County Land and Water Resource Management plan. Schroeder seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Item #6      Recommendation for approval of the Pierce County Land and Water Resource Management Plan—Rod Webb, Pierce County LCD; and Dennis Presser**

Webb presented the plan to the LWCB for an approval recommendation. His presentation covered county geographical information; public input on plan; high priority threats; plan priorities; resource assessment; county agricultural statistics; last plan progress, accomplishments, and information and education activities; and updated plan priorities, agricultural performance strategy, goals and action items, and measures of success.

After the presentation, the LWCB and Webb discussed the following: groundwater problems; using grazing pastures as a means to reduce high nitrate levels in groundwater; efforts to combat terrestrial invasive species; why there were both a citizens advisory and a technical advisory group for planning; whether the new bridge at Stillwater has an impact on soil and water resources, particularly with land speculation; and what the changes to tolerable soil loss and phosphorus levels mean for the county.

Rudolph made a motion for the LWCB to recommend approval of the Pierce County Land and Water Resource Management Plan. Cihlar seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Item #7      Agency reports**

**a. FSA**

No report was given.

**b. NRCS**

No report was given.

**c. UW-CALS**

No report was given.

**d. UW-Extension**

Genskow reported that UW Extension and CALS has experienced a number of retirements, including Fred Madison and Pete Nowak. Extension coordinates conservation training, and you can view the training opportunities at [www.conserva-tion-training.wisc.edu](http://www.conserva-tion-training.wisc.edu) . Extension will continue to offer forestry training for woodland owners. With the changes in program funding, the Basin Education program is now called the Extension's Natural Resources Program and will

focus on watershed, forestry, and stormwater issues. There will be 12 Natural Resource Educators (formerly Basin Educators) instead of 15.

**e. WALCE**

Calkins reported that the ad hoc committee on the WALCE and WLWCA merger will meet again on August 9<sup>th</sup>. On August 30<sup>th</sup>, there will be joint meeting between the two boards of directors on the merger. The final vote on the merger will take place at the WLWCA annual conference in December. The fall county conservationists meeting will take place on October 6-7, 2011. If the LWCB wishes to be on the agenda for the meeting, let Calkins know. Calkins commented that the delay in the allocation plan does not leave the counties in a good position, particularly with staffing levels.

**f. WLWCA**

Zelazny reported that the Wisconsin Envirothon winner, Middleton High School, came in 8<sup>th</sup> place overall at the National Envirothon. They did come in 1<sup>st</sup> place in the wildlife category. The poster speaking contest will take place in November. The WLWCA annual conference will take place on December 8-9, 2011, in Wisconsin Dells. There was nothing to report on advocacy activities at this time.

**g. DATCP**

Petty reported that DATCP has resumed work on the 2010 Purchase of Agricultural Easement (PACE) projects and is in the rule making process for five new Agricultural Enterprise Areas (AEA). The 2012 joint allocation plan has been delayed as DATCP waits to hear what funding lapses it will need to take as required by the 2011-13 biennial budget. SEG dollars are not part of the lapse mandated in the budget, but the GPR dollars, which covers staffing, will be affected. Maintaining staff at the department will need to be a consideration in this process since without a minimum level of staff, it becomes difficult to run the programs at the state level that in turn support the counties. The department is not certain if it can present the preliminary allocation plan at the October 4<sup>th</sup> LWCB meeting.

**h. DNR**

No report was given.

**Item #8 Recognition of LWCB member**

Cupp presented Jana Steinmetz with a recognition plaque for her service as DOA advisor to the LWCB.

## Adjourn

There being no further business before the LWCB, Rudolph made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Laughrin seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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Denny Caneff, Secretary

10/12/11  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Recorder: LP